

# A Battery of Good Ideas

Without battery power, your AN/PRC-77 portable manpack radio is just 20 pounds of dead weight. That's why you should make battery and battery box PM part of your regular maintenance routine.

Follow these tips to stay in power:

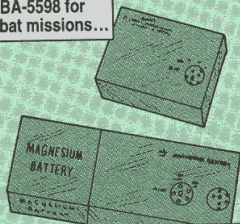
## Choose Proper Battery

First order of business is to decide which battery to put in your radio—the BA-5598 lithium, NSN 6135-01-034-2239, or the BA-4386 magnesium, NSN 6135-00-926-8322.

For most training exercises and everyday use, the BA-4386 is inexpensive and works well. But on a combat mission, use the BA-5598. Even though it costs more, it has some advantages over the magnesium battery:

- ✓ It's smaller and lighter.
- ✓ It can be stored outside in hot weather longer without losing power.
- ✓ It's the battery of choice for arctic/cold weather operations, delivering better performance in below-freezing temperatures.

Use BA-5598 for combat missions...



...and BA-4386 for training

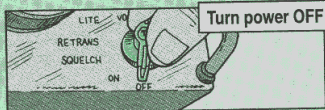


## A Good Fit

Quick and sloppy is the wrong way to install a battery. You'll damage the battery or the radio's connector pins.

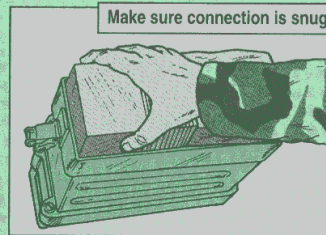
Whether you use a BA-5598 or a BA-4386, put the battery in the right way:

1. Turn off the radio's power switch.



2. Stand the receiver-transmitter on its front panel guards.

3. Lower the battery into place, mating the battery's receptacle with the RT's connector. Seat it firmly.



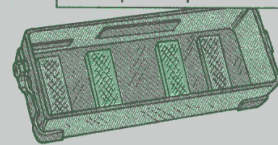
4. Replace the battery box on the RT and tighten its clamps.

The lithium battery is half the size of the magnesium, so you can install two of them in the battery box. That way you'll have a spare when one dies.

## About the Box

Some battery boxes have two extra rubber pads, NSN 9320-00-930-0724, in the center of the box. They help keep batteries snug. If your battery box needs center pads, ask unit maintenance.

Center pads keep batteries snug



nance to get them and put them in. NSN 8040-00-664-4318 brings adhesive to glue down the pads.

The battery box has a pressure relief valve to vent hydrogen gas from the BA-4386. Without it, gas can build up in the RT and cause a small blast. If the valve is clogged, ask unit maintenance to take a look.

They can replace it with NSN 4820-00-296-9677.

Valve clogged?

